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ANNUAL REPORT

ON

EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA

TO

BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES

FOR

1884-85.

BY

J. G. GRANT, Esq., M.D.,
Protector of Emigrants.

Calcutta:
BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.
1885.

No. 1352.

FROM J. G. GRANT, ESQ., M.D.,

Protector of Emigrants,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,
GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated Calcutta, the 12th October 1885.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of Government, the Annual Report on Emigration, under Act VII of 1871, from Calcutta to British and Foreign Colonies for the year ending the 31st March 1885.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

J. G. GRANT,

Protector of Emigrants.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA TO BRITISH AND FOREIGN COLONIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 31ST MARCH 1885.

SECTION I—ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

Preparation of draft rules under Act XXI of 1883.

1. In compliance with instructions from Government, draft rules were prepared under the Indian Emigration Act XXI of 1883, and submitted for the consideration and approval of Government in November last.

In framing them, provision had to be made for all the requirements coming under the several clauses of section 80 of the Act, and also for those under other sections, which necessitated the introduction of some new rules. The work involved a careful reconsideration and adaption of existing rules, scales, and orders relating to the conduct of emigration in all its details, and at every stage of its progress; the inclusion, after some modification, of Mr. Grierson's rules relating to the recruitment, registration and placing on contract of intending emigrants; the incorporation of approved suggestions that had come under notice from time to time; and the introduction under Government orders of rules in connection with the following points, many of which formed the subjects of correspondence with Government during the course of the year under review, namely:—

(*a*) The issue to emigrants on the voyage of daily rations according to a prescribed weekly scale, and the limitation of the surgeon's discretion in dieting healthy emigrants.

(*b*) A uniform rate of payment to clerks employed in connection with the registration of emigrants.

(*c*) The introduction into the scale of medical comforts of non-alcoholic lime-juice.

(*d*) An amended scale of crew for emigrant vessels.

(*e*) The accommodation, on board emigrant vessels, of single men in a separate compartment, suitably divided off from that for the women.

(*f*) The probable length of voyage of emigrant vessels proceeding to the several colonies authorized to import Indian labour; and also the seasons during which such vessels may convey emigrants to those colonies.

(*g*) The supply by Emigration Agents to registering officers of printed forms in connection with the registration of emigrants, and the execution of their contracts.

(*h*) The inclusion of female non-emigrant passengers in reckoning the percentage of women to men embarked for the several colonies.

(*i*) The reduction in the proportion of women, among emigrants embarked for Mauritius, from 40 to 33 to every 100 men.

On this point it may be observed that, in view of the great difficulties experienced in India in obtaining for each ship the prescribed proportion of 40 women to every 100 men, and the fact that the number of resident females of the Indian population in Mauritius is sufficiently large to admit with safety of a reduction of the above proportion without causing an improper disparity of the sexes in the island, the proposal of the Government of Mauritius to reduce the proportion of adult females required to be shipped for that colony was considered unobjectionable by the Government of India, and accordingly provision was made in the rules for carrying it into effect.

The draft Rules were published for general information in the *India Gazette* of the 10th of January 1885; and it was notified at the same time that they would be taken into consideration by the Government of India on the expiry of one month from that date. The Emigration Agents for the

British Colonies, however, submitted an application to Government soliciting that the consideration of the rules be postponed in order to admit of their being placed before Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies. The request was acceded to, and the further consideration of the rules was deferred till the 15th of April 1885.

Advances of money to intending emigrants.

2. Information was called for by Government on the subject of advances, if any, made to intending emigrants prior to their departure for the colonies. Accordingly, in September 1884, after consulting the Emigration Agents on the question, a report was submitted, for the information of Government, showing that no advances of the kind were made to emigrants proceeding to British or Dutch Guiana, Trinidad, Natal, Jamaica, and the French Colonies; and that, though a few emigrants to Mauritius had received such advances, they had done so under very exceptional circumstances. Government, however, pointed out that the procedure, under any circumstances, is open to objection; that, apart from other considerations, the emigrant should arrive in the colony free from all indebtedness; and, therefore, that advances of this nature should not be made even under rare and exceptional conditions.

Short earnings of Indian emigrants in Grenada.

3. With reference to the short earnings of Indian emigrants in Grenada, on which information had been desired by Government during the previous year, a communication on the subject was received from the Colonial Secretary, Grenada, by the Agent at Calcutta, and of which a copy was submitted for the information of Government, showing that the labourers in that colony are not pressed to work, and that they consequently divide their time between plantation work and the cultivation of their own gardens which yield profitable returns.

SECTION II—EMIGRATION AGENCIES.

Agencies in operation.

1. As shown in the subjoined statement, ten agencies, or two in excess of the number in 1883-84, were engaged in supplying labour to British and Foreign Colonies during the year 1884-85.

Colonies importing Indian Labour.		Names of Emigration Agents.	Dates of approval of appointment by Government of Bengal.	Situation of cooly depôts.
Names.	Whether British or Foreign.			
Demerara	British	Mr. R. W. S. Mitchell ...	14th April 1884	No. 8, Garden Reach.
Natal	Ditto	Ditto	16th June ,,	Ditto.
Trinidad	Ditto	Mr. O. W Warner ..	30th December 1881	No. 11, Garden Reach.
Jamaica	Ditto	,, A. C. Stewart ...	21st August 1884	No. 12, Garden Reach.
St. Lucia	Ditto	Ditto	28th September ,,	Ditto.
Grenada	Ditto	Ditto	21st August ,,	Ditto.
Fiji ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
Mauritius	Ditto	Mr. F. DeLa Mare .	7th December 1883	Bhowanipore near Tolly's Nulla.
Surinam ...	Dutch	,, E C. Van Cutsem ...	27th April 1876	No. 20, Garden Reach.
Guadeloupe ...	French	,, E. A. Charriol ...	26th September 1880	No. 71, Garden Reach.

Mr. Henry Kirke continued to officiate as Emigration Agent for British Guiana and Natal till May 1884, when Mr. Robert Mitchell arrived and took up the work of both agencies, which he has conducted ever since the 29th of May 1884.

Mr. Allen Stewart reported his arrival on the 17th of July 1884 to assume the duties of Agent for the Colonies of Jamaica, Fiji, St. Vincent, Grenada, and St. Lucia, which up to that time had been discharged by Mr Oliver Warner, Agent for Trinidad. Under special arrangements, however, Mr. Warner continued to act as Agent for St. Lucia till the 23rd of December, when Mr Stewart received charge of that agency.

Mr. Warner, having been granted leave to Europe, left Calcutta in December last, and made over charge of the Trinidad Agency to Mr DeLa Mare, Agent for Mauritius, who has acted for him since the 24th of December 1884.

The duties of the other agencies continued, without change, to be carried on throughout the year by the several agents who had held office during the previous year.

To each of the agents I desire to express my obligation for all the assistance kindly afforded me in the course of the past year.

2. *Labour requisition from the Colonies.*

Colonies Importing Indian Labourers.	1883-84. Number of statute adult labourers. Under requisition.	Despatched.	In excess of requisition.	Short of requisition.	1884-85. Number of statute adult labourers. Under requisition.	Despatched.	In excess of requisition.	Short of requisition.	Remarks.
Demerara	6,000	2,537	.....	3,463	7,000	5,288½	.....	1,711½	
Trinidad	3,205	2,470½	.....	734½	3,000	1,881½	.....	1,118½	
Jamaica	.....	.....	.....	.....	600	539½	.....	60½	Requisitions from Mauritius and Natal specify the number of men only, and leave the number of women to be adjusted by the rule regulating their proportion
St. Lucia	775	.....	.....	775	825	839	4	.....	
Grenada	.....	.....	.....	.....	164	165	1	.....	
Natal	1,324	475	.....	849	3,488	1,184½	.....	2,303½	
Fiji	2,100	1,401½	.....	698½	1,300	2,074	874	.....	
Mauritius	990	1,135	145	.....	Men 802	1,848½	1,346½	.....	
Surinam	1,800	1,355½	.....	444½	1,350	1,536½	186½	.....	
Guadeloupe ...	900	885½	.....	14½	450	461½	11½	.....	
Total ...	17,094	10,260	145	6,979	18,689	13,867½	2,422½	5,194	

It will be seen, on comparing the corresponding results of the year with those of 1883-84, that the total labour requisition of all the colonies, British and Foreign taken collectively, was larger by 1,545 statute adults; that a larger proportion of the number required was despatched; that the excess over the previous year was due to increased demands from Demerara, Natal, and St. Lucia, and to the requirements of Jamaica and Grenada, two colonies that did not recruit coolies in 1883-84. Moreover, excepting Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica and Natal, all the colonies received labourers in excess of the number applied for; and as a result, labour being more readily obtainable than during the previous year, emigration was on the whole more active. Indeed, but for the decline in the price of sugar, due apparently to over-production of beet-root sugar, especially in Germany, and a corresponding fall in the demand for coolie labour in sugar-producing colonies affected by it, recruitment for them would have been carried on still more actively than it was. As the season advanced, however, necessity for retrenchment becoming apparent, some requisitions were cancelled; and it may be noticed in the above statement that upwards of 5,000 coolies, originally applied for between Demerara, Trinidad, Jamaica and Natal, had not been despatched when the year closed.

3. The terms offered by the different agencies to intending emigrants, and shewn in the following statement, did not differ from those under which engagements were effected during the previous year:—

Colony.	Work.		Period of indenture.	Classification of emigrants.	Wages—minimum rate claimable.	Rations.		Dwelling-house.	Medical care and maintenance during sickness.	Free return passage when claimable.
	Nature.	Duration.				Prescribed.	Period of supply.			
British Guiana	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce, such as the making of sugar, rum, molasses, &c., and domestic service.	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted; and seven hours in the fields, or ten hours in the factory buildings in each working day.	Five years	Adult (able-bodied) males of and above 15 years of age. Adult (not able-bodied) males, minor males of and above 10 and under 15, and females of and above 10 years.	Rs. A. P. Daily— 24 cents ... = 0 8 0 16 " ... = 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	To each adult of and above 15 years of age— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. } Daily. Dál ... ... 4 oz. } Cocoanut-oil or ghee ... 1 " } Masala ... ... ½ " } Sugar ... ... 2 " } Yams, plantains, sweet potatoes, tanias, cassava, or corn meal, one seer, or flour half seer; to minors of and above 10 and under 15 years of age, half the above quantities; and to infants under 10 years of age, one-third the above quantities.	From the first date of delivery to any employer for three calendar months then next following, at a cost to adults of two annas eight pies; to minors half the rate; and to infants free of charge.	Free of rent, and with garden ground to cultivate at leisure.	Hospital accommodation, medical attendance, medicine, medical comforts, and suitable diet, free of cost.	After five years' of service, and additional five years of industrial residence in the colony.
Trinidad ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted; and nine hours between sunrise and sunset in each working day.	Ditto ...	Adult males and females of and above 10 years of age. Non-adult males and females from 5 to 10 years of age.	Daily— 1s. ½d. ... = 0 8 4 In proportion to amount of work done. Payable fortnightly.	To each adult from 10 years and upwards— Rice ... ... 1 lb. } Daily. Dál ... ... 4 oz. } Ghee or cocoanut-oil ... 1 " } Sugar ... ... 2 " } To each non-adult from 5 to 10 years, half the above scale.	For the first two years at a cost of two annas eight pies per day to adults; free of cost to non-adults.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Jamaica ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Adult males from 16 years and upwards. Minors, males, from 12 to 16 years, and adult females.	Rs. A. P. Daily— One shilling = 0 8 0 Nine pence = 0 6 0 Payable weekly.	To each adult of and above the age of 12 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. } Daily. or Corn meal ... ... 2 " } Raw cassava ... ... 5 " } Raw yams or cocoas ... 4 " } Split peas ... ... 8 " } Monthly. Salt fish ... ... 8 " } or Mutton, beef, or goat flesh... 8 " } Ghee ... ... 1 " } or Sweet or cocoanut-oil ... 1 pt. } Salt ... ... 1 lb. } Dry pepper, or piments ... 2 oz. } Fuel ... ... Sufficient. } To each non-adult of the age of one year and upwards, half the above rations.	For the first three months, or, if necessary, for the whole period of indenture, at maximum cost of 3s. 6d. weekly to adults; and free of charge to non-adults.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Mauritius ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Males— Adults above 18 years. " 15 to 18 " " 12 to 15 " Minors above 10 to 12 years. Male return emigrants above 18 years. Male return emigrants above 14 to 18 years. Female adults.	Monthly— s. Rs. A. 10 = 5 0 } Subject to an increment of 8 annas yearly. 8 = 4 0 } 6 = 3 0 } 5 = 2 8 } 11 = 5 8 9 = 4 8 6 = 3 0 d. 6 = 0 4 and a ration of rice. Payable monthly.	To each adult above 12 years— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. } Daily, Weekly. Maize (pounded) ... ... 2 " } Manioc (cooked) ... ... 2½ " } Ditto (raw)... ... ... 5 " } Dál ... ... 8 oz. } Salt fish ... ... 8 " } Ghee or oil ... ... 4 " } Salt ... ... 4 " } To each minor under 12 years of age, three-fourths of the above scale.	For whole period of indenture, free of cost.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Not provided by the colony.

Natal ...	Cultivation of the soil and manufacture of the produce, such as the making of sugar, rum, molasses, &c., and domestic service.	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted; and nine hours between sunrise and sunset in each working day.	Five year	Adult males of and above 18 years of age. Adult females of and above 18 years of age. Non-adult males from 10 to under 12 years of age. Non-adult males from 12 to under 15 years of age. Non-adult males from 15 to under 18 years of age.	Monthly— Rs. A. P. First year ... 5 0 0 Second ,, ... 5 8 0 Third ,, ... 6 0 0 Fourth ,, ... 6 8 0 Fifth ,, ... 7 0 0 Half the above rates— Rs. A. P. 2 8 0 3 0 0 4 0 0 Payable monthly.	To each adult— Rice 1½lb. daily, or for three days in the week; in lieu of rice 2lb. of maize. Dál ... ... Salt-fish ... ... Ghee or oil ... ... Salt ... ... (Weekly) To each child under 12 years of age, three-fourths of the above rations.	For whole period of indenture free of charge.	Free of rent, and with garden ground to cultivate at leisure.	Hospital accommodation, medical attendance, medicine, medical comforts, and suitable diet, free of cost.	After five years of service, and additional five years of industrial residence in the colony.
Fiji ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted; and nine hours in each day, except Saturday, when work shall be of five hours' duration only.	Do. ...	Adult males above the age of 15 years. Adult females above the age of 15 years. Minors under 15 years of age.	Daily— One shilling ... ... Nine pence. In proportion to amount of work done. Payable fortnightly.	To each person from 10 years and upwards— Rice ... ... 0¼lb. or {rice... ... ... 1 ,, and dál ... ... 4 oz. Cocoanut oil or ghee ... 1 ,, Curry stuff ... ... 0¼ ,, Sugar ... ... 2 ,, Salt .. .. 1 ,, (Daily) To each child from 5 to 10, half the above rations of rice, sugar and salt.				
St. Lucia ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted; and nine hours between sunrise and sunset in each working day.	Do. ...	Same as it is in Trinidad...	Same as it is in Trinidad	Same as it is in Trinidad	Same as it is in Trinidad.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Grenada ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Do. ...	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ditto	Ditto ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
French Colonies.	Ditto ...	Ditto ditto ...	Do. ...	Adult males of and above 16 years. Adult females of and above 14 years. Minor males from 11 to 16 years, and minor females from 11 to 14 years.	Monthly— Rs. A. P. 5 0 0 4 0 0 2 0 0 Payable weekly. Also two suits of clothes each year. Daily for actual work. British Guiana Currency— Rs. A. P. 24 cents. ... 0 8 0 16 ,, ... 0 5 4 Payable weekly.	Daily— Rice, manioc, flour, salt-fish, ghee or oil, salt, &c., in the quantity fixed by Government regulations.	For whole period of indenture, free of cost.	Ditto ...	Ditto, except when illness is traced to personal misconduct.	After five years' service.
Surinam ...	Ditto ...	Six days in the week, from Monday to Saturday, all authorized holidays excepted, and seven hours in the fields or ten hours in the factory buildings in each working day.	Do. ...	Adult (able-bodied) males of and above 15 years of age. Adult (not able-bodied) males, minor males of and above 10 and under 15, and females of and above 10 years.		To each adult— Rice ... ... 1½ lb. Dál ... ... 4 oz. Cocoanut oil or ghee ... ... 1 ,, Curry-stuff ... ... 0¼ ,, Sugar ... ... 2 ,, Salt .. .. 0¼ ,, To each minor half the above scale, and to each infant one-third of the above scale.	For the first three calendar months from the date of delivery for allotment at a daily cost of 8 cents. for each adult and 4 cents. for each minor. Infants' rations are free of cost.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.

Recruiting Licenses.

Emigration Agencies.	1883-84. Licenses. Granted.	Cancelled for misconduct. Number.	Cancelled for misconduct. Percentage.	Withdrawn at Agent's request. Number.	Withdrawn at Agent's request. Percentage.	Withdrawn at recruiter's request. Number.	Withdrawn at recruiter's request. Percentage.	Total number cancelled or withdrawn.	Percentage of total number cancelled or withdrawn.	Total number of emigrants recruited.	Average number collected by each recruiter.	1884-85. Licenses. Granted.	Cancelled for misconduct. Number.	Cancelled for misconduct. Percentage.	Withdrawn at Agent's request. Number.	Withdrawn at Agent's request. Percentage.	Withdrawn at recruiter's request. Number.	Withdrawn at recruiter's request. Percentage.	Total number cancelled or withdrawn.	Percentage of total number cancelled or withdrawn.	Total number of emigrants recruited.	Average number collected by each recruiter.
Demerara ...	127	3	2·18	...	...	...	...	3	2·18	3,396	24	228	6	2·63	...	...	...	...	6	2·63	7,429	32½
Fiji ..	106	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	1,829	17	151	2	1·32	...	...	...	...	2	1·32	3,362	22½
Trinidad .	137	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	3,290	24	152	1	0·66	...	...	...	...	1	0·66	3,409	22½
Natal ...	104	1	0·96	...	...	...	...	1	0·96	1,651	15½	91	2	2·19	...	...	...	...	2	2·19	1,514	16½
St Lucia ...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	268	10½	42	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,278	30½
Jamaica ..	..	...	...	...	...		...	...	.	.. .		50	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	791	15½
Mauritius ..	83	2	2·40	...	...	...	...	2	2·40	3,354	40	52	...	.....	...	...	...	.	...	...	2,161	67½
Grenada ...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..		1	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	. .	178	178
Surinam ...	109		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,536	23½	71	2	2·81	...	...	...	...	2	2·81	1,652	26
Guadeloupe	56	. .	..	..	...	...	..	...	...	1,767	31½	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,213	30½
Total ...	757	6	0·79	...	...	...	...	6	0·79	18,021	23½	838	13	1·55	...	...	...	...	13	1·55	23,191	27½

4. As the larger demand for labour necessitated an increase in the number of recruiters required by the several agencies, 81 licenses were granted in excess of the number that issued in 1883-84. Though the percentage of licenses that had to be cancelled (= 1·55) on account of misconduct on the part of recruiters was smaller than that of the year 1882-83 (= 2·77), it was larger than that of 1883-84 (= 0·79). The offences for which cancellation of license, and when evidence was sufficient, additional punishment was inflicted, were the following:—

Recruitment.

(*a*)—Abduction of married women from their homes, resulting in the cancellation of six licenses.

(*b*)—Obtaining registration of a woman by means of personation, resulting in the cancellation of three licenses. The evidence in this case was unfortunately not sufficient to ensure a severer punishment.

(*c*)—Removal of unregistered emigrants from district of recruitment, resulting in the cancellation of two licenses and the fine of one of the recruiters.

(*d*)—Recruiting without a license after the term for which license was granted had expired, resulting in conviction and fine, and the recruiter's exclusion for the future from emigration work.

(*e*).—One license was withdrawn, as the intending recruiter, who was at first believed to bear a good character, was reported subsequently by the countersigning Magistrate to be unfit for such employment.

5. *Districts of Registration of Emigrants.*

Colonies Importing Indian Labour. Names.	Whether British or Foreign.	Number registered in Districts of Bengal and Behar. Beerbhoom.	Bhagulpore.	Burdwan.	Champaran.	Durbhunga.	Gya.	Hazaribagh.	Midnapore.	Monghyr.	Sarun.	Shahabad.	Sonthal Pergunnahs.	Patna.	24-Pergunnahs.	Total.	Percentage.
Demerara	British	49	121	727	.. ...	58	470	340	.....	416	56	708	13	852	926	4,436	50·76
Fiji	Ditto	.....	120	...	... ..	199	446	...	. 2	190	9	41	164	296	671	1,909	58 55
Trinidad	Ditto	.....	172	151	9	219	685	131	.....	15	12	69	.....	256	716	3,334	68·46
Natal	Ditto	.....	28	72	.. .	27	44	31	.....	... ..	8	156	28	152	106	652	42·78
St Lucia	Ditto	.....	...	67	22	106	559	30	.....	42	... ..	37	21	10	153	1,057	81 14
Jamaica	Ditto	.....	41	7	.....	49	79	.....	... ..	... ..	... ..	18	.. ...	48	356	598	75·60
Mauritius	Ditto	.....	9	6	.....	.....	178	... ..	.....	... ..	43	394	.....	81	914	1,620	74 96
Grenada	Ditto	.....	.....	....	.....	.....	.	... .	.. ...	.. ...	.....	... .	.... .	.....	178	178	100
Surinam	Dutch	.. ..	6	61	. ....	... .	113		.....	193	.... .	146	.....	... .	195	[illegible]18	38 76
Guadeloupe	French	.....	.....	.....	.....	214	218	. ..	....	153	.....	71	.....	43	3	779	55 97
	Total	49	497	1,094	31	863	2,682	532	2	928	128	1,642	226	1,439	4,118	14,221	61 32

Colonies importing Indian labour.		Number registered in districts of North-Western Provinces.																							
Name.	Whether British or Foreign.	Allahabad.	Agra.	Aligarh.	Azamgarh.	Bedaun.	Bareilly.	Bijnor.	Benares.	Bustee.	Cawnpore.	Etah.	Etawah.	Farruckabad.	Futtehpore.	Ghazipore.	Gorakhpore.	Jounpore.	Mutra.	Moradabad.	Meerut.	Mirzapore.	Shahjehanpore.	Total.	Percentage.
Demerara ...	British ...	613	85	38	6	8	56	...	548	42	190	...	...	...	46	286	108	94	43	2	...	...	...	2,231	30·05
Fiji ...	Do. ...	140	105	...	63	...	...	...	282	44	118	...	...	16	...	31	11	28	167	...	11	...	...	1,056	31·40
Trinidad ...	Do. ...	26	85	...	36	...	11	...	101	56	83	...	...	13	...	48	22	59	17	...	...	...	8	638	19·62
Natal ...	Do. ...	153	16	47	...	...	3	...	120	20	33	...	...	...	15	...	53	13	44	...	...	...	...	575	37·72
St. Lucia ...	Do. ...	...	61	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	73	...	24	...	...	...	...	60	11	...	...	...	11	208	16·27
Jamaica ...	Do. ...	5	14	...	...	...	...	...	52	...	37	...	...	...	...	14	...	23	7	...	...	...	...	156	19·31
Mauritius ...	Do. ...	18	83	...	10	...	...	...	60	...	152	...	...	...	...	20	20	...	11	...	...	...	...	388	17·03
Grenada ...	Do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Surinam ...	Dutch ...	134	139	34	41	...	...	...	283	3	240	...	...	3	48	...	28	...	65	4	...	9	...	1,083	35·04
Guadeloupe ...	French ...	15	91	...	...	...	...	2	158	...	179	13	...	...	...	...	27	...	65	...	...	4	...	554	44·03
	Total ...	1,077	681	169	156	8	70	2	1,646	173	1,111	13	55	18	97	475	329	276	432	6	11	13	19	6,635	29·67

Colonies importing Indian labour.		Number registered in districts of Oudh.										Number registered in districts of Panjaub.				Number registered in districts of Bombay.		Number registered in districts of Madras.		Number registered in districts of Central Provinces.		Total number for each Colony of all districts.
Name.	Whether British or Foreign.	Bahraich.	Bara Banki.	Fyzabad.	Gonda.	Lucknow.	Partabgarh.	Sultanpore.	Unao.	Total.	Percentage.	Delhi.	Gurgaon.	Total.	Percentage.	Ahmedabad.	Percentage.	Ganjam.	Percentage.	Bilaspore.	Percentage.	
Demerara ...	British ...	40	...	351	...	190	1	22	...	613	8·25	32	...	32	0·43	78	1·05	8	0·10	28	0·33	7,423
Fiji ...	Do. ...	8	5	112	21	62	...	23	...	231	6·86	49	...	49	1·45	...	.....	43	1·27	14	0·41	3,362
Trinidad ...	Do. ...	...	...	154	55	146	...	9	7	373	10·94	36	38	74	2·17	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,409
Natal ...	Do. ...	20	4	150	7	65	...	...	...	246	16·14	...	...	...	...	51	3·41	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,524
St. Lucia ...	Do. ...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	8	0·62	25	...	25	1·95	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,278
Jamaica ...	Do. ...	...	...	25	...	16	...	...	...	41	5·18	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	791
Mauritius ...	Do. ...	7	...	...	...	98	...	...	...	105	4·85	62	6	68	3·14	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,161
Grenada ...	Do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	174
Surinam ...	Dutch ...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	9	4·86	35	...	35	1·88	7	0·37	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,852
Guadeloupe ...	French ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,218
	Total ...	75	9	792	83	598	8	54	7	1,626	7·01	239	44	283	1·22	136	0·58	51	0·21	39	0·16	23,191

The following abstract of the results of registration during the last two years shows to how great an extent the number of registrations effected in Bengal and Behar continued to increase; while registrations in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh fell somewhat short of the corresponding results in the previous year, and those in the Punjab and other places were reduced to comparative insignificance, thus—

	Years.	
	1883-84.	1884-85.
1. Bengal and Behar	6,795	12,775
2. North-Western Provinces	6,836	6,835
3. Oudh	1,763	1,626
4. Punjab	501	283
5. Central Provinces	348	39
6. Madras	648	51
7. Bombay	158	136
8. Rajputana	36	None
	17,085	21,745
Add re-registrations in the 24-Pergunnahs ...	936	1,446
Total ...	18,021	23,191

It appears that the largest number of intending emigrants were registered as regards *Bengal and Behar* in Gya, the 24-Pergunnahs, Shahabad, Patna and Burdwan, and as regards the *North-Western Provinces and Oudh* in Benares, Cawnpore, Allahabad, Fyzabad and Lucknow.

Native districts.

6. In view of the fact that recruitment was so much more active in Bengal and Behar than elsewhere, it is not surprising to find that, of the total number registered, the natives of those provinces form the largest proportion. This may be seen from the subjoined abstract which shows broadly the *native places* of the labourers registered for the several colonies, and gives an idea of the extent to which the natives of Bengal and Behar contributed towards the aggregate number registered:—

Natives of Bengal and Behar	11,493
" of the North-Western Provinces	7,544
" of Oudh	2,696
" of the Punjab	410
" of the Central Provinces	165
" of Madras	230
" of Bombay	146
" of Native States	251
" of unknown	256
Total ...	23,191

Looking further under "Districts of residence," it is found that natives of the following districts (wherever they may happen to have been registered) were recruited in the largest numbers, namely—

Of Bengal and Behar.—Gya (3,741), Patna (1,269), Shahabad (1,746), Monghyr (762) and Mozufferpore (582).

Of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.—Azamgarh (880), Ghazeepore (827), Jounpore (693), Basti (627) and Fyzabad (508)

Causes that favoured increased emigration from Bengal and Behar; and the interaction of Colonial and Inland emigration.

7. The manifestly greater activity of emigration from the Lower Provinces, as compared with that from the North-West and Oudh, is attributable to the comparatively high price of food-grains, the result of persistent drought that prevailed during the year throughout the area from which the largest number of labourers was drawn. For while the crops in Bengal and Behar were suffering more or less from want of rain that led to scarcity, the local markets of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh appear to have been comparatively well stocked. On the other hand, as regards the recruiters themselves, the presence of facilities for obtaining suitable labour so much nearer the port of embarkation than the more distant Upper Provinces, and of economising transit, must necessarily have led them to make the best of their opportunities by concentrating their operations chiefly in Behar and the districts in its vicinity that were most readily accessible by rail.

Recruitment for the colonies was carried on most freely in the months of July, August, September, and October; and it was during those months particularly that the poorest labouring classes, who ordinarily emigrate, were feeling the full effects of the high prices of food-grains in Patna, Gya, Shahabad, Monghyr and neighbouring localities. Indeed, early in August I received a communication from Mr. Grierson, the Officiating Magistrate of Patna, in which he intimated that, "owing to want of rain, the crops in this district have

largely failed, and a considerable distress is anticipated among the labouring classes. They are enlisting at present in considerable numbers for the colonies, and I would suggest that you should draw the attention of the various Emigration Agents to the fact that Patna district is likely to prove a fertile field." Accordingly, I caused the information furnished by Mr. Grierson to be circulated amongst all the Emigration Agents for the colonies and the contractors under the Inland Emigration Act.

The Emigration Agents acted on the intimation forwarded; but the contractors, in view of the absence of any demand for Patna coolies, and of any agency in that district, did not avail themselves of the opportunity. Competition between recruiters on behalf of Colonial and Inland emigration was confined to the districts of Bengal and Behar; and on comparing the results attained by both classes of recruiters in those districts where colonial recruitment was most active, their operations during the period under review was attended with the following results :—

Districts of Registration	Total number of registrations effected in 1884-85.	
	By Colonial recruiters.	By contractors' recruiters and certificated garden sardars.
Gya	2,682	1,288
24-Pergunnahs	2,672	798
Shahabad	1,642	285
Patna	1,439	None.
Burdwan	1,094	1,826

Considering the far more favourable terms offered by colonial recuiters, the success attained by inland recruiters, even to the extent shown in the above statement, is doubtless due in great measure to the fact that a journey to the labour districts does not seem so formidable, nor does it involve a long sea voyage as that to the colonies does, and these are considerations that seem to affect the Bengali far more seriously than the Behari. From the results above shewn, it appears that, except in Burdwan, the recruiters for the colonies were everywhere more successful than those engaged in collecting labourers for the labour districts. That recruitment for the labour districts should be less difficult in Burdwan than recuitment for the colonies, is explained by the fact that most of those recruited there were Bengalis who, as already observed, have the strongest aversion to a long sea voyage; nor is the large measure of success attending colonial recruitment in the 24-Pergunnahs inconsistent with this observation, since the majority of those recruited there were not natives of the place, but, for the most part, waifs and strays from Behar and other districts, who came down to Calcutta in search of employment. In Patna, for reasons above noticed, there was no rivalry whatever, and the colonial recruiters had that field entirely to themselves.

8. *History of emigrants between registration and arrival at depôts.*

Emigration Agencies.	Number of emigrants registered.	Deduction of Emigrants.																						Infants born subsequent to registration of emigrants.	Total number of emigrants admitted into depôt.
		Number of casualties.								Number discharged by Agency.															
		Died.		Deserted.		Detained in the mofussil depôts.		Total.		Rejected as unfit.		Unwilling.		Claimed by relatives.		On account of relationship to rejected, claimed or unwilling emigrants.		Unacquired surplus recruitment.		Total.		Grand Total.			
		Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
Demerara ...	7,423	...	...	31	0·41	14	0·19	45	0·60	1	0·01	...	...	1	0·01	...	...	...	...	2	0·02	47	0·63	...	7,376
Fiji ...	3,392	3	0·08	26	0·77	14	0·41	43*	1·29	9	0·28	1	0·02	5	0·14	5	0·14	...	...	20	0·59	63	1·87	...	3,290
Trinidad ...	3,409	4	0·11	17	0·49	1	0·02	22†	0·64	3	0·08	4	0·11	..	...	...	...	...	...	7	0·20	29	0·85	...	3,378
Natal ...	1,524	..	...	12	0·78	...	...	12	0·78	...	...	...	...	2	0·13	...	...	...	...	2	0·13	14	0·91	...	1,510
St. Lucia...	1,378	1	0·07	3	0·21	4	0·31	8	0·62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0·62	...	1,370
Jamaica ...	791	...	...	9	1·13	..	...	9‡	1·13	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	9	1·13	...	779
Mauritius ...	2,161	1	0·04	20	0·92	2	0·09	23	1·06	...	...	...	...	2	0·09	...	...	...	...	2	0·09	25	1·15	...	2,136
Grenada ...	178	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Surinam ...	1,853	...		5	0·16	4	0·21	7	0·37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0·37	...	1,843
Guadeloupe ...	1,918	...	...	21	1·73	3	0·24	24	1·90	20	1·64	3	0·16	4	0·33	...	...	...	...	26	2·14	50	4·12	1	1,164
Total ...	23,191	9	0·03	142	0·61	42	0·18	193	0·83	33	0·14	7	0·03	14	0·06	5	0·02	...	...	59	0·25	252	1·08	1	22,921

* Nine (9) unaccounted for by agency.
† Seven (7) ditto ditto.
‡ Three (3) ditto ditto.

Excepting the larger number of deaths—nine as against one in 1883-84—indicative, even at this early stage, of the greater prevalence of sickness, the general results thus far bear favourable comparison with those of the previous year; and tend to show, by the smaller proportion of those who deserted, or were unwilling to proceed further, that a relatively larger number were desirous of emigrating; thus—

Percentage of deaths.	1883-84.	1884-85.
Of deaths	.....	0·3
,, rejections	0·19	0·14
,, desertions	1·22	0·61
,, unwilling	0·08	0·03
,, claimed by relatives	0·12	0·06

(a) History of emigrants between arrival at depôt and final disposal.

Emigration Agencies.	Number of emigrants admitted into depôt.	Number remaining at the close of last year.	Number of infants born in depôt.	Total number accommodated in depôt during the year.	Deduction of Emigrants. Number of Casualties. Died. Number.	Died. Percentage.	Deserted. Number.	Deserted. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.	Number discharged by Agency. Rejected as unfit. Number.	Rejected as unfit. Percentage.	Unwilling. Number.	Unwilling. Percentage.	Claimed by relatives. Number.	Claimed by relatives. Percentage.	On account of relationship to rejected, claimed or unwilling emigrants. Number.	On account of relationship. Percentage.	Transferred to other agencies. Number.	Transferred. Percentage.	Released from engagement and returned to places of registration. Number.	Released. Percentage.	Surplus of season's requirement. Number.	Surplus. Percentage.	Total. Number.	Total. Percentage.	Grand Total. Number.	Grand Total. Percentage.	Emigrants despatched to colonies. Number.	Emigrants despatched. Percentage.	Number of emigrants remaining in depôt at the close of the year.
Demerara ...	7,376	.....	...	7,376	39	0·52	174	2·35	213	2·88	979	13·15	138	1·87	62	0·84	73	0·98	64	0·86	25	0·33	...	...	1,332	18·06	1,545	20·94	5,827	78·99	4
Fiji ...	3,299	508	1	3,799	28	0·76	128	3·36	157	4·13	348	9·16	55	1·44	9	0·23	57	1·50	108	3·44	10	0·26	1	0·02	588	15·47	745	19·61	2,316	60·96	738
Trinidad ...	3,373	4	...	3,377	73	2·16	195	5·77	268	7·93	494	14·62	27	0·79	15	0·44	.....	.....	347	10·27	20	0·59	15	0·44	918	27·18	1,186	35·11	2,191	64·88	.....
Natal ...	1,510	255	...	1,765	8	0·45	72	4·07	80	4·53	195	11·04	63	3·56	8	0·45	1	0·05	125	7·08	4	0·22	4	0·22	400	22·65	480	27·19	1,283	72·63	2
St. Lucia ...	1,270	225	...	1,495	48	3·21	94	6·28	142	9·49	169	11·30	19	1·27	2	0·13	69	4·61	124	8·29	...	...	5	0·33	388	25·95	530	35·45	964	64·48	1
Jamaica ...	779	.....	...	779	16	2·05	31	3·97	47	6·03	79	10·14	3	0·38	...	...	7	0·89	34	4·36	...	...	8	1·02	131	16·81	178	22·84	601	77·15	.....
Mauritius ...	2,146	430	...	2,566	24	0·93	228	8·88	252	9·82	106	6·46	106	4·13	4	0·15	11	0·42	3	0·11	8	0·31	...	...	238	11·61	550	21·43	2,016	78·56	.....
Grenada ...	178	.....	...	178	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	1	0·56	...	...	...	...	1	0·56	1	0·56	177	99·43	.....
Surinam ...	1,845	401	2	2,248	22	0·97	33	1·46	55	2·44	240	10·94	108	4·80	3	0·13	45	2·00	99	4·40	12	0·53	...	...	513	22·82	568	25·26	1,679	74·68	1
Guadeloupe ...	1,164	.....	...	1,164	5	0·42	24	2·06	29	2·49	74	6·35	11	0·94	2	0·17	13	1·03	541	46·47	...	...	...	...	640	54·98	669	57·47	495	42·52	.....
Total ...	22,921	1,823	3	24,747	264	1·06	979	3·95	1,243	5·02	2,741	11·07	530	2·14	105	0·42	275	1·21	1,446	5·84	79	0·31	33	0·13	5,200	21·04	6,452	26·07	17,549	70·90	747

Sickness and Mortality among Emigrants in depôt, 1884-85.

Diseases in Depôt.	Demerara. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Trinidad. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	St. Lucia. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Grenada. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.
Diarrhœa ...	6	0·08	2	0·02	12	0·35	4	0·11	5	0·33	3	0·20	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	9	0·12	4	0·05	41	1·21	7	0·20	16	1·07	3	0·20	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	5	0·14	1	0·03	3	0·20	3	0·20	...	...	...	...
Fever ...	38	0·51	8	0·10	85	2·51	15	0·44	24	1·60	1	0·06	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	1	0·02	...	...	3	0·20	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chest affections ...	34	0·46	12	0·16	9	0·26	1	0·02	8	0·53	7	0·46	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	35	0·47	7	0·09	72	2·13	38	1·12	55	3·67	26	1·73	...	...	...	...
Other diseases ...	26	0·35	6	0·08	30	0·88	7	0·20	23	1·53	5	0·33	...	...	...	...
Total ...	148	2·00	39	0·52	255	7·55	73	2·16	137	9·18	48	3·21	...	...	...	...

Diseases in Depôt.	Natal. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Fiji. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Mauritius. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Jamaica. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.
Diarrhœa ...	5	0·28	1	0·05	22	0·69	9	0·23	4	0·15	1	0·03	6	0·77	...	...
Dysentery ...	12	0·67	2	0·11	23	0·60	...	...	13	0·50	3	0·11	12	1·54	1	0·12
Cholera ...	3	0·17	1	0·05	12	0·31	8	0·31	4	0·15	3	0·11	...	...	...	...
Fever ...	13	0·73	2	0·11	33	0·86	8	0·21	55	2·14	6	0·23	47	6·03	13	1·66
Chicken-pox ...	2	0·11	...	...	4	0·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ...	2	0·11	1	0·06	4	0·10	1	0·02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chest affections ...	2	0·11	...	...	5	0·13	...	...	15	0·58	6	0·23	5	0·64	2	0·25
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	3	0·07	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0·12	...	...
Other diseases ...	25	1·41	1	0·05	102	2·77	3	0·07	22	0·82	5	0·19	26	3·34	...	...
Total ...	64	3·62	8	0·45	212	5·58	29	0·76	113	4·40	24	0·93	97	12·45	16	2·06

Diseases in Depôt.	Mauritius. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Jamaica. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Suriname. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Guadeloupe. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.	Total. Sickness. Number.	Sickness. Percentage.	Death. Number.	Death. Percentage.
Diarrhœa ...	20	0·68	1	0·04	6	0·51	2	0·17	87	0·35	23	0·09				
Dysentery ...	8	0·35	7	0·31	17	1·46	1	0·09	168	0·67	28	0·11				
Cholera ...	6	0·26	1	0·05	1	0·05	...	...	36	0·14	23	0·09				
Fever ...	60	2·22	1	0·04	26	2·14	...	...	370	1·49	54	0·21				
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	1	0·08	...	...	7	0·02	...	...				
Small-pox ...	2	0·09	1	0·04	...	...	...	...	12	0·04	3	0·01				
Chest affections ...	5	0·22	1	0·04	6	0·51	...	...	89	0·35	29	0·11				
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164	0·67	71	0·28				
Other diseases ...	54	2·40	4	0·17	47	4·03	2	0·17	358	1·44	33	0·13				
Total ...	164	7·29	22	0·97	103	8·84	5	0·43	1,296	5·22	264	1·06				

On comparing the general results of the above statement with those of 1883-84, the greater unhealthiness of the year under review is rendered evident, not only by the higher percentage of total deaths that occurred in depôt, but also by the larger proportion of rejections that had to be made from all the depôts on account of the prevailing ill health and physical unfitness of many of the coolies who had been recruited for them, thus—

Causes		Percentage in— 1883-84.	1884-85.
Deaths		0·59	1·06
Desertions		4·42	3·95
Rejections		4·81	11·07
Unwilling		1·36	2·14
Claimed by relatives		0·66	0·42
Dependents accompanying relatives		0·84	1·11
Unavailable surplus at close of season...	Transferred as volunteers to other agencies ..	4·92	5·84
	Unwilling to be transferred and therefore returned home at expense of agency	0·12	0·31

The desertions; however, continue proportionately small, and although the percentage of those who were unwilling to emigrate is somewhat in excess, this difference is fairly accounted for by the well-known effect that rejections have, especially when numerous, in producing discontent and consequent unwillingness to emigrate amongst the friends and companions of those who have to be rejected. The percentage of those who were claimed by their relatives was less, while the percentage of those who were willing on the close of one agency to be transferred to another was greater, than the corresponding results of the previous year.

From the following comparison of the percentages of total sickness and mortality that prevailed during the last two years in the colonial depôts, it appears that, although sickness in 1884-85 was less by about one per cent. than in 1883-84, it was of greater fatality :—

Total percentage.	For the years 1883-84.	1884-85.
Of sickness	6·25	5·22
Of death	0·59	1·06

As the coolies recruited during the year under review were drawn largely from classes suffering at the time from the effects of privation, and a general increase of the diseases that ordinarily prevail in Bengal and Behar, it is not surprising, notwithstanding the numerous rejections made from all the depôts, and which seem merely to have limited the *extent* of sickness in depôt, that many of the coolies who had to be accepted by most of the agencies were of comparatively inferior physique, and through lowered vitality incapable of rallying from serious disease. Moreover, cholera prevailed to a greater extent during 1884-85; and measles, of which there was only a solitary case in the Guadeloupe depôt in 1883-84, was introduced with the coolies into five out of ten of the depôts, tending, necessarily, to increase both sickness and mortality, not only directly, but indirectly, by increasing the admissions for chest and other affections, its ordinary sequelæ.

Excluding the small batch of 178 coolies collected for Grenada, who happened to be altogether free from sickness, the Demerara depôt is conspicuous for having had the least amount of sickness, and, excepting the Guadeloupe and Natal depôts, the lowest death-rate; on the other hand the coolies recruited for St. Lucia, Trinidad and Jamaica were the most sickly; some batches collected for Trinidad and St. Lucia having arrived in depôt with the germs of measles amongst them, and others, for Jamaica, with coolies who were debilitated and prone to fever.

With reference to the mortality in the Trinidad depôt, Mr Warner, the Agent, observes that it "was in part due to the fact that a very large proportion of the coolies admitted into it were recruited in districts where scarcity prevailed, and in many instances I admitted coolies who ought properly to have been at once rejected, simply because I knew that by returning them to their homes I was relegating them to almost certain starvation.

"Many improved in health and emigrated, but others who were too far gone died in my hospital.

"It would be impossible to exaggerate the utter destitution and misery of these people, many of whom, on being told that they would be rejected and

sent back to their homes, earnestly entreated to be allowed to remain in my depôt.

"An epidemic of measles which broke out early in August carried off, as you are aware, a great many of the Trinidad and St. Lucia coolies before it was stamped out. Every effort was made to eradicate the disease, and the greatest care was taken of those suffering from it. I hired two large houses in the neighbourhood of my depôt, in one of which I placed the people actually suffering from the disease, and in the other the new arrivals from up-country. I hired a second native doctor and an extra nurse to attend solely to the sufferers, and no expense was spared in procuring everything in the way of nourishment which the convalescent people could desire."

Although the presence, throughout the year, of so many conditions unfavourable to the health of coolies in depôt renders it impossible to estimate the amount of good done, there is reason to believe that the improvements effected in the ventilation of the Surinam and French depôts, and in the sleeping platforms and ventilation of the Trinidad depôt, were beneficial; since, notwithstanding the disadvantages attending privation in the recruiting districts and a more sickly season, these three depôts had on the whole a smaller percentage of sickness than in 1883-84.

Comparative statement of mortality among emigrants classified according to sex and age.

Emigration Depôts.	Number of Emigrants accommodated.							Number of Deaths. In each class.							Percentage of Deaths. In the year 1884-85.						
	Adults.		Children.		Infants.			Adults.		Children.		Infants.			Adults.		Children.		Infants.		
	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Demerara ...	4,431	1,826	424	347	185	163	7,376	14	7	2	3	6	7	39	0·31	0·38	0·47	0·86	3·24	4·29	0·52
Fiji ...	2,284	998	260	172	86	89	3,799	14	6	3	2	2	2	29	0·61	0·66	1·15	1·16	2·32	2·24	0·76
Trinidad ...	1,927	829	249	195	90	87	3,377	18	12	15	8	12	10	73	0·95	1·44	5·22	4·10	13·33	11·49	2·16
Natal ...	1,118	433	84	63	36	31	1,765	1	2	1	...	2	2	8	0·08	0·46	1·19	...	5·55	6·45	0·45
St. Lucia ...	807	344	143	112	48	41	1,495	5	5	11	13	8	6	48	0·61	1·45	7·69	11·60	16·66	14·63	3·21
Jamaica ...	467	193	54	31	15	19	779	9	2	...	1	3	1	16	1·92	1·03	...	3·22	20·00	5·26	2·05
Mauritius ...	1,643	607	145	98	30	43	2,566	5	7	2	6	2	2	24	0·30	1·15	1·37	6·12	6·66	4·65	0·93
Grenada ...	114	47	7	3	4	3	178	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Surinam ...	1,368	580	106	73	55	66	2,248	9	4	2	2	3	2	22	0·65	0·68	1·88	2·73	5·45	3·03	0·97
Guadeloupe ...	717	301	49	23	45	29	1,164	...	2	...	...	2	1	5	...	0·66	...	...	4·44	3·44	0·43
Total ...	14,876	6,068	1,521	1,117	594	571	24,747	75	47	34	35	40	33	264	0·50	0·77	2·23	3·13	6·74	5·77	1·09

Considering all the circumstances of the year and the prevalence of measles to which the young are specially liable, it is not surprising to find that the death-rate was highest amongst infants and children. Moreover, as explained in my annual report for last year, children cannot be rejected so freely as adults can, since their rejection involves that of their mothers, who are in many instances perfectly eligible, and are always too valuable as emigrants to be set aside, except for very strong reasons.

(*d*).—*The average detention in depôt.*

Depôts.	Number of days in depôt. Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Remarks.
Demerara	117	1	19	Owing to the embarkation of a woman (under enquiry) being deferred till the next ship.
Trinidad	125	2	30	Owing to the embarkation of a woman (under enquiry) being deferred till the next ship.
Fiji	130	3	27·40	
Natal	59	7	21	Owing to debility.
St. Lucia	147	5	42	Owing to non-collection of a sufficient number to complete a shipment.
Jamaica	37	4	22·16	
Mauritius	126	2	8	One man was imprisoned, and embarked after release.
Grenada	3	1	2·58	
Surinam	138	1	40	Owing to treatment for debility.
Guadeloupe	65	1	24·65	Owing to the unavoidably delayed embarkation of a batch of coolies.

The average detention in depôt did not exceed a month, except in the Surinam depôt, where it was due to the detention of an emigrant under treatment for debility.

SECTION III.—*Embarkation.*

Provinces.	Number of souls embarked for the colonies.										
	Demerara.	Fiji.	Trinidad.	Natal.	St. Lucia.	Jamaica.	Mauritius.	Grenada.	Surinam.	Guadeloupe.	Total.
Bengal and Behar	2,813	1,129	1,165	400	613	312	905	16	617	240	8,210
North-Western Provinces	2,009	723	781	563	199	199	695	118	730	178	6,009
Oudh	784	289	199	121	70	77	129	12	223	59	2,063
Central Provinces	3	2	1	1	...	...	12	...	4	1	23
Central India	51	8	23	0	31	4	25	9	47	2	207
Rajputana	1	1	..	2	4	...	2	...	2	4	16
Punjab	47	37	49	16	31	3	82	10	32	6	313
Miscellaneous ... Nepal, Madras, Bombay	126	127	23	73	18	6	195	12	34	5	617
Total ...	5,837	2,316	2,191	1,282	964	601	2,016	177	1,679	495	17,548

Particulars are given in the above statement regarding the 17,548 emigrants who embarked during the year, showing the provinces to which the coolies belonged, and the colonies to which they were despatched.

The number of emigrants despatched in 1884-85 being 17,548, as against 13,808 in 1883-84, necessitated the engagement of 33 vessels, or four in excess of the number that conveyed emigrants during the previous year. Five of these vessels were steamers, differing in this respect from the means of conveyance employed during 1883-84, when only sailing vessels were chartered. Moreover, the average number of emigrants to each vessel is larger for 1884-85, being 531¾ emigrants, as against 476 emigrants in 1883-84.

THE

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PROTECTOR OF IMMIGRANTS.

IMMIGRATION OFFICE,

ST. LUCIA, 11th February, 1898.

His Honour

C. A. KING-HARMAN, Esquire, C.M.G.,

Administrator of the Government.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit the twentieth annual report of the Immigration Department of the Colony, that is, for the year 1897.

2. The subjoined table shows the number of Indian Immigrants under indenture in the Colony on the 31st December, 1897:—

	Adults		Minors.		Infants	Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Alive 31st December, 1896	86	39	1	1	22	149
Born in 1897	...			...	6	6
					28	155
Died in 1897	1	...	...	.	1	2
	85	39	1	1	27	153

3. These figures show a birth-rate of 4.02 per cent. and a death-rate of 1.29 per cent. The birth-rate is a fair average one, and the death-rate is remarkably low. Indeed, it is the lowest in the record of twenty years, the nearest previous approach to it being 2.17 per cent.

4. It gives me pleasure to report that the health of the immigrants in the malarious valley, Grand Cul-de-Sac, in which they reside, is now fairly established for good, despite the unseasonable weather that prevailed during a great part of the year.

5. In connection with the subject of general health, I may remark that in the earlier days of immigration the prevalence of malignant ulcers led to many cases of amputation, until the introduction of Iodoform by

Dr. Dennehy, which put an almost entire stop to the ravages of the hungry knives of the surgeons. Recently Dr. Galgey has introduced Thymol for the treatment of Malaria Fever and its concomitants and consequences. Happy results follow in the speedier controlling and curing of this principal malady of the country, and it is hoped the story of the use of Thymol will resemble that of the use of Iodoform.

6. Sometime ago it was rumoured that Dr. Pollonais had discovered a specific for the cure of Yaws. If the report prove correct, he will win laurels of which he may well be proud, and the sufferers from this unsightly disease will hail him as a benefactor.

7. Jealousy was the cause of a good deal of trouble and apprehension towards the end of the year; but prompt measures were employed, and the year passed away without a case of murder, manslaughter, or suicide.

8. Correspondence with India fell off considerably during the latter half of the year. The total of letters to India was 96, and 88 were received from India.

9. During the year the sum of £25 5 4 was transmitted through the Treasury to relations in India, and £3 5 11, the effects of an immigrant who died childless and intestate, were sent to the nearest of kin.

10. The Immigration Fund was credited with the following amounts :—

Duty on	Sugar exported	£1,440
„	Cocoa „	364
„	Molasses „	56
„	Tobacco (unmanufactured) imported ...	837
		£2,697

Sundry Tables are attached.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Honour's most obedient

and humble servant,

R. P. CROPPER,

Protector of Immigrants.

A.

RETURN showing the Work and Wages of Indentured Indian Immigrants on one Estate during the year ended 31st December, 1897.

	Estate.	No. of Immigrants.	Total Days.	Average of each.	Average of each per week.	Total Earnings.	Average of each.	Average of each per week.
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Men	Soucis	80	11,471.41	143.39	2.75	573 11 5	7 3 4½	2 9
Women	,,	36	3,835.8	106.55	2.05	159 16 6	4 8 9½	1 8½
Male. Minor	,,	1	...	...	...	4 9 9	... ...	1 8¾
Female. Minor ...	,,	1	...	...	...	2 12 7	... ...	1 0

B.

RETURN showing the Number of Births among Indentured Indian Immigrants during the year 1897.

Births.	Indian Population	Rate per 1000.
6	149	40.27

C.

RETURN showing the Number of Deaths among the Indentured Indian Immigrants during the year 1897.

Date.	Deaths.				Indian Population.	Rate per 1000.	Cause.	Place	Location.
	Adult		Infants.	Total.					
	M	F.							
1897.									
Feb. 7 ...			1	1				Soucis	Soucis
Nov. 21 ...	1			1			Chronic Asthma	Victoria Hosp.	"
	1		1	2	155	12.9			

D.

RETURN showing the Diseases treated among the Indentured Indian Immigrants at the Victoria Hospital during the year 1897.

Diseases.	Admitted.	Relieved	Sent to Poor Asylum, &c	Died	Under treatment	Cured.
Abscess	13	.	...	...	1	12
Anæmia and Splenitis...	90	...	...	...	1	89
Bones and Joints	1	...	..	...	...	1
Debility	5	...	...	...	...	5
Digestive Organs	42	...	...	...	...	42
Eyes and Ears	6	...	1	...	...	5
Erysipelas..	2	..	...	...	...	2
Fevers	271	...	...	...	3	268
Genito-Urinary	4	...	...	...	...	4
Lymphatic..	1	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	140	1	...	...	2	137
Nervous System	10	...	...	...	...	10
Pregnancy..	12	...	...	...	...	12
Respiratory Organs	58	1	...	1	4	52
Rheumatism	5	...	..	...	.	5
Skin Diseases	53	1	2	...	2	48
Ulcers	21	...	...	...	4	17
Wounds and Contusions	26	...	...	...	...	26
	760	3	3	1	17	736

E.

RETURN showing the Number of Complaints brought before the Magistrate of the First District Court by Employers against Indentured Indian Immigrants during the year 1897.

No. of Cases.	Nature of Complaint.	Non-Conviction.	Conviction.	Sentence.	Result.
6	Refusing to work ..	6	...	No Prosecution	Nil.
4	Leaving Estate without leave ..	4	...	" "	"
2	Absent from work ...	2	...	" "	"
1	Threatening language	1	...	" "	"
6	Refusing to work ...	...	4	Fined 6/- or 3 days H. L.	Imprisoned.
			2	" 4/- or 2 " H. L.	1 Paid—1 Imprisoned.
1	" " ...	1	...	No Prosecution	Nil.
4	" " ...	...	3	Fined Costs or 2 days H. L.	3 Paid.
			1	" 2/6 or 2 days H. L.	1 Imprisoned.
24		14	10		

F.

STATEMENT of the Rates of Wages, Price of Food, and other matters affecting the condition of the Indian Immigrants in this Colony for the year 1897.

WAGES—BY TIME.

Men receive	1 shilling	per day of	9 hours.
Women "	10 pence	"	"

BY TASK.

Holing done by men from	100 to 175 holes	... ...	1 shilling.
Cross Holing " "	80 to 250 "	... ...	1 "
Hoe ploughing " "	150 to 250 "	... ...	1 "
Weeding " "	80 to 300 "	... ...	1 "
" by women "	70 to 250 "	... ...	10 pence.
Hauling trash (men) "	150 to 300	... .	1 shilling.
" " (women) "	120 to 250	... ...	10 pence.
Stripping trash (men) "	200 to 500	... ...	1 shilling.
" (women) "	160 to 300	... .	10 pence.
Cutting canes (men) "	175 to 300	... ...	1 shilling.
Filling waggons with canes (men)		... ...	6*d.* to 8*d* a waggon.

The size of the task varies according as the soil is light or heavy; according as fields have few or many weeds; according as there are few or many canes in a stool. The strong and active women frequently take the same task as the men and get a shilling. Children earn 3*d.* to 6d. a day Minors earn 9*d.* to 1/- a day.

(This task table is still retained, although, owing to changes in the mode of cultivation on several Estates, it has been considerably modified.)

Men attending the mill receive a special extra for breakfast hour; so do the women.

Dwellings—free of charge.

Gardens—Every adult has a right to the use of ¼ acre of land.

Doctors—A medical officer visits the Estates twice a month.

Hospitals - Each district has its Hospital, to which immigrants are admitted free of charge.

Medicines—are likewise free, when immigrants are treated on their Estates.

FOOD.

Prices.—Fish, Salted Cod, 3*d.* to 4*d.* a lb. Pickled Herrings, 2*d.* a lb.
,, Fresh, 4*d.* to 6*d.* a lb.
Beef, 7*d.*; Mutton, 8*d.*; Pork, 8*d.* a lb.
Poultry, 9*d.* a lb.
Rice, 2*d.*; Wheat Flour, 2½*d.* a lb.
Farine, Manioc (Cassava flour) 1¼*d.* a lb.
Wheaten Bread, 2½*d.* a lb.
Vegetables, 1d. a lb.
Olive Oil, 6*d.* a pint.
Butter, Coarse, 1/4 a lb.
Sugar, Muscovado, 2*d.* a lb.